

SYMPOSIUM ON COMMERCIAL SPACEFLIGHT SAFETY ISSUES (D6)  
Commercial Spaceflight Safety and Emerging Issues (1)

Author: Dr. George Nield

Federal Aviation Administration Office of Commercial Space Transportation (FAA/AST), United States,  
george.nield@faa.gov

[INVITED KEYNOTE] CONTINUAL IMPROVEMENT OF FAA COMMERCIAL SPACE  
TRANSPORTATION SAFETY REGULATIONS

**Abstract**

The 2004 Commercial Space Launch Amendments Act passed by the US Congress requires a phased approach to regulating US commercial space transportation. Since then, US companies have expanded capabilities in orbital spaceflight connected to NASA missions to resupply the ISS and suborbital vehicles to carry people. US suborbital companies are interested in operating outside the USA when regulations do not exist. the FAA issued regulations for commercial human spaceflight in 2006 and is continually improving its regulations. This keynote speech will discuss FAA's approach to commercial space transportation safety.